

## **DISEASE INFORMATION**

**Summary – Week 11 – Ending 03/28/09** – Disease reports received at DPHHS during the reporting period March 22-28, 2009 included the following conditions: various enteric conditions [campylobacteriosis, giardiasis, salmonellosis], dengue fever in a traveler to the Caribbean, meningococcal disease, animal rabies, invasive *Streptococcus pneumoniae* infection and varicella.

There have been four cases of meningococcal disease in Feb/Mar 2009 - 19 y/o Gallatin, 67 y/o Missoula, 15 y/o Cascade, 17 y/o Gallatin. No deaths to date. Late winter/early spring is the most common time of year for this disease. Please remind people that there is a vaccine for this disease. Meningococcal conjugate vaccine is recommended for: (1) all children at 11-12 years of age; (2) children 13-18 years of age who have not been previously vaccinated; (3) unvaccinated college freshmen who live in a dormitory; and (5) persons 2-55 years of age at increased risk. Info: [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/mening/](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/vpd-vac/mening/)

*NOTE: The spreadsheet has multiple pages, each indicated by a tab in the bottom left corner. Tabs on the worksheet reflect the following: (1) vaccine preventable and enteric diseases YTD; (2) other communicable diseases; (3) cases just this week; (4) clusters and outbreaks; and (5) an STD summary.*

**Fifth's Disease (Parvovirus B19)** – We have received reports of clusters of Fifth's disease (parvovirus B19) from central and southwestern Montana. See control measures in INFORMATION section below.

### **Influenza Surveillance – As of 03/28/09, Montana's influenza activity is REGIONAL.**

There are a few isolates for which we have received results from the CDC on antiviral susceptibility testing: one A:H3 is resistant to adamantanes; all the A:H1s are resistant to oseltamivir; and all the Bs are all susceptible to both oseltamivir and zanamivir. This is completely consistent with the national resistance data. Recommendations for the use of antiviral medications can be found at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/index.htm>.

Nationally, activity continues to decrease; however, the season has seen an increase in the proportion of influenza B viruses, the one type of flu that is not very well-matched by this year's vaccine. National weekly updates about influenza: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

## **INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NEW! Bed Bug Resources** - Bed bugs are becoming a problem around the country. The Journal of the American Medical Association recently published a good fact sheet on this topic: <http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/reprint/301/13/1398>.

**NEW! Rabies Vaccine Availability** – Novartis Vaccines has announced that RabAvert vaccine is available for both pre- and post-exposure prophylaxis, without any supply restrictions.

- ☐ All animal bites should be reported to the LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT. Please make sure that local emergency rooms, urgent care clinics and providers have local health department 24/7/365 contact information.
- ☐ State CDEpi personnel are available at (406) 444-0273 24/7/365 for consultation regarding post-exposure prophylaxis and to release password for *Imovax only* as needed.
- ☐ As a reminder, a revised version of the rabies algorithm is attached.
- ☐ The rabies vaccination situation has not changed since October, with Imovax (Sanofi Pasteur) still requiring password release for PEP.

## Rabies Vaccine Status 4/3/09

	Pre-Exposure (PreEP)	Post-Exposure (PEP)
<b>Imovax (Sanofi Pasteur)</b> 1-800-VACCINE	Not Available	<u>Password Release and Completion of Sanofi Form</u> – Contact CD Epi (444-0274) for consultation and password
<b>Rabavert (Novartis)</b> Please contact your local distribution center OR Novartis Vaccines – 1-800-244-7668 <b>NEW!</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Available for <u>ALL</u> pre-exposure prophylaxis, without any supply restrictions</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Includes persons whose activities bring them into frequent contact with rabies virus or potentially rabid animals, such as veterinarians and their staff, animal handlers, rabies researchers, and certain laboratory workers. In addition, some international travelers may be candidates for pre-exposure vaccination if they are likely to come in contact with animals in areas where dog or other animal rabies is enzootic, and immediate access to appropriate medical care, including rabies vaccine and immune globulin, could be limited. <b>NEW!</b></li></ul>	<u>No password required</u>

For more information on rabies or rabies vaccine: [www.cdc.gov/rabies](http://www.cdc.gov/rabies).

**Fifth's Disease (Parvovirus B19)** – Fifth Disease or Erythema Infectiosum ("slapped cheek" disease) is transmitted via contact with respiratory tract secretions. Since people are no longer infectious after the rash develops, the most important preventive measure is good hand hygiene and cough etiquette - which will also help with other viral illnesses this time of year! Daycare staff, particularly those who are pregnant or may become pregnant, will have specific worries because this virus can harm the fetus; however, the only recommendations are to increase awareness about hand washing and proper disposal of tissues containing nose/throat secretions. Info: [www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/respiratory/parvo\\_b19.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvrd/revb/respiratory/parvo_b19.htm)

**NEW! HIV Prevention Campaign** - A new campaign was just released by CDC for HIV prevention. Check out the webcast at [www.aids.gov](http://www.aids.gov) or the campaign website at [www.cdc.gov/nineandahalfminutes/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/nineandahalfminutes/index.html).

**Pandemic Influenza Communication Materials** – To strengthen the nation's preparedness for a potential influenza pandemic, the National Public Health Information Coalition (NPHIC) has launched a new clearinghouse of pandemic influenza communication materials. The Pandemic Influenza Resource Library features a wide variety of communication materials for local and state pandemic influenza planning efforts. ([www.nphicpanflu.org](http://www.nphicpanflu.org))

## **REMINDERS**

**24/7 Availability** – Did you know that the Epidemiology program has a phone line that is answered 24 hours a day/7days a week/365 days a year? Please call 406.444.0273 if you need immediate epidemiology assistance or consultation! The answering service will take a message and we will return the call as quickly as possible.

*This newsletter is produced by the Montana Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program. Questions regarding its content should be directed to 406.444.0273 (24/7/365). For more information: <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>.*